



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

**DENTAL QUALITY ASSURANCE COMMISSION  
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES  
Friday, July 25, 2008**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Pramod Sinha, DDS, Chair  
Padmaraj Angolkar, DDS Vice Chair  
Karen Homitz, DDS  
Jessica Saepoff, DDS  
Russell Timms, DDS  
Mark Koday, DDS  
Robert Faine, DDS  
Andrew Vorono, DDS  
Robert Achterberg, DDS  
Abdul Alkezweeny, PhD, Public Member  
Bernard Nelson, Public Member

**STAFF PRESENT**

Joy King, Executive Director  
Jennifer Bressi, Program Manager  
Jennifer Osmun, Program Support  
Taylor Stair, Disciplinary Manager  
Sandra Adix, Assistant Attorney General  
Colleen Madden, Dental Quality Assurance  
Commission Pro-Tem  
Trent Kelly, Staff Attorney  
Kirby Putscher, Case Management Group  
Manager  
Peggy Owen, Administrative Assistant  
Micky Wardell, Compliance Officer  
Dave Magby, Chief Investigator  
Rob Waters, Investigator  
Tony Pizallo, Investigator

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Marshall Titus, DDS

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Mick Oreskovich, MD, Washington  
Physicians Health Program (WPHP)  
Bracken Killpack, Washington State Dental  
Association (WSDA)  
Victor Carnell, WSDA  
James Carnell  
Katherine Hakes, WSDA  
Steven Waite, WSDA  
Bryan Anderson, WSDA  
Melissa Johnson, Washington State Dental  
Hygienists Association, (WSDHA)  
Washington Association of Nurse  
Anesthetists, (WANA) Willamette Dental  
Donna Phinney, Spokane Community  
College (SCC)  
John C. Versnell, Attorney  
Alice Spitulski, Interdent  
Jill Metlow, Certified Dental Assistant  
(CDA)  
Lisa Merki, CDA  
Mary Lawlor, WANA  
Karen Raiy, Apollo College  
Ricki Reynolds, Apollo College



## **OPEN SESSION – 8:00 a.m.**

### **1. CALL TO ORDER – Dr. Sinha, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.**

- 1.1. Audience members introduced themselves.
- 1.2. The agenda was approved with the addition of item 1.5.
- 1.3. June 12, 2008 formal hearing minutes were approved as presented.
- 1.4. June 12, 2008 business meeting minutes were approved with the addition of Russell Timms, DDS to the Members Present list.
- 1.5. June 13, 2008 Panel A, B, & C minutes were approved as presented.
- 1.6. June 12, 2008 formal hearing minutes were approved as presented.

### **2. PROGRAM REPORT**

- 2.1. Ms. Bressi provided the June 2008 interim operating budget report for commission review. She reported that the budget deficit continues, approaching \$2 million.
- 2.2. Ms. King reported on the Health Systems Quality Assurance (HSQA) reorganization. An organizational chart was provided and she explained how some of the units within the Department of Health (DOH) are being moved and combined. Program support staff for the Dental Commission are now part of the new Health Professions and Facilities (HPF) office.
- 2.3. Ms. Bressi provided the implementation plan for Substitute House Bill (SHB) 2881. She asked the commission to appoint an additional committee member due to a vacancy. Bernie Nelson volunteered and the commission approved his participation. The committee members are Drs. Koday, Vorono, Titus, and Bernard Nelson, Public Member. Ms. Bressi explained that she has met with the Community Health Systems office at the department and is working with them on collecting data. She is planning a meeting for the committee to review the report requirements of SHB 2881, review and modify the implementation plan, review the completed research, and determine what additional research may be needed for the report.
- 2.4. Members approved the proposed 2009 commission meeting dates. Approved dates for 2009 are: February 5-7, March 19-21, April 30 & May 1-2, June 11-13, July 23-25, September 17-19, October 22-24, and December 10-12. Meeting dates will be posted to the dental commission website.
- 2.5. Ms. King is currently summarizing the 2008 Board/Commission/Committee survey results. The results will be presented at the Fall Board and Commission Leadership Conference and to the commission at a later date.
- 2.6. Ms. Bressi gave an update on the dental assistant (DA) registration processing. Currently 4700 applications have been received; 1700 of those applications have been entered into the departments Integrated Licensing and Regulatory System (ILRS) database, 3000 still

need to be entered and additional applications are still being received. As of July 23, 2008, 366 registrations have been issued.

### **3. PRESENTATION – Prevention of Dentist Impairment**

Mick Oreskovich, MD, Medical Director and CEO of Washington Physicians Health Program (WPHP) provided statistical information and an annual overview of the WPHP program.

### **4. DISCIPLINARY PROCESS**

- 4.1. Trent Kelly, Supervising Staff Attorney with the HSQA Legal Services Office explained disciplinary process changes that have been made to ensure compliance with Fourth Substitute House Bill (4SHB) 1103. This bill went into effect June 12, 2008.
- 4.2. Ms. Bressi explained that the commission has not had an opportunity to use the dental assistant exception application process as of this date. The commission will be discussing the process at the next DQAC meeting on September 11, 2008.

### **5. RULE MAKING – Status of Ongoing Rulemaking Projects**

- 5.1. The CR102 has been submitted for the License Related Rules (100 series) & SHB 1689 PGY-1 Dental Residency Pilot. The department's rules office asked for changes in the format. Ms. Bressi worked with Drs. Timms and Koday to make sure changes in the format did not cause changes to the content of the rules. Dr. Koday requested one change to WAC 246-817-155, which was to use the same program names used by the Commission on Dental Education Accreditation (CODA). The commission approved the addition of the CODA program names. The CR102 is expected to be filed by August 6, 2008.
- 5.2. Ms. Bressi reported that she is currently working on the significant analysis and small business impact statement for the dental anesthesia rules. The CR102 is expected to be filed by October 2008 and a hearing may be held as early as the December 4, 2008 DQAC meeting.
- 5.3. Dental assistant (DA) and expanded function dental auxiliary (EFDA) rules became effective on July 1, 2008.
  - 5.3.1. A CR103 for credentialing and scope of practice for dental assistants and expanded function dental auxiliaries was filed on June 19, 2008.
  - 5.3.2. A CR103 for dental assistant and expanded function dental auxiliary fees and renewal cycle was filed on June 13, 2008.
- 5.4. A CR101 has not been filed for House Bill (HB) 3088, definition of volunteer dental assistant. The CR101 could not be filed until the DA and EFDA rules were completed. Ms. Bressi is proposing to incorporate rule revisions that use the term "dentist" to

include "dental assistant and expanded function dental auxiliary" in the same rule package with the definition of volunteer dental assistant. Ms. Bressi will provide the commission with a detailed recommendation at the September 11, 2008 meeting.

- 5.5. Ms. Bressi reported that the department filed fee increases for all but nine professions. The nine professions, including dental, were re-evaluated for appropriateness of increases. The proposed dental renewal fee is \$400.00. The department will request from the legislature annually to increase dental renewal fees over the next three years. The CR103 is expected to be filed by July 30, 2008.

## **6. ELECTION**

Dr. Angolkar was nominated and elected as Chair of the Dental Quality Assurance Commission. Dr. Homitz was nominated and elected Vice-chair of the commission.

## **7. REGIONAL BOARD UPDATES**

- 7.1. Ms. Bressi reported that Dr. Titus will attend the American Association of Dental Examiners (AADE) meeting October 15 - 16, 2008 in San Antonio, Texas.
- 7.2. Dr. Titus, not in attendance, provided Ms. Bressi a report on Western Regional Examining Board (WREB). Ms. Bressi shared that a California accredited school in Mexico has asked WREB to test for them. WREB is considering the invitation. In 2009 there will be a field test for the curriculum integrated patient crown, and the Patient Assessment and Treatment Planning (PATP) exam will be computerized. The 2009 WREB dental and dental hygiene examination dates are set and will be available soon.

Dr. Saepoff attended the WREB Conference on July 11-12, 2008 in Big Sky, Montana. Discussions at the meeting included conflicts between dentists and their hygienists, differences between science and practice, and minimally invasive dental treatments.

- 7.3. Dr. Timms reported that he will be attending the Central Regional Dental Testing Service (CRDTS) meeting in August 2008.

## **8. OTHER**

- 8.1. Ms. Bressi reported that she and Ms. Osmun attended the 2008 Pacific Northwest Dental Conference on July 10-11, 2008. They provided assistance at the Washington State Dental Association information booth to answer DA and EFDA related questions. Ms. Bressi and Joan Martin, South Puget Sound Community College (SPSCC), presented and provided a question and answer session for approximately 500 dental professionals. Approximately 75% of the group was interested obtaining EFDA licensure.
- 8.2. Drs. Sinha and Angolkar will attend the 2008 Washington State Dental Association House of Delegates meeting on September 18-19, 2008 in Walla Walla, Washington. A draft report was provided to the commission.

- 8.3. Dr. Homitz questioned the dental assistant definition in relationship to direct patient care. The commission discussed whether sterilization technicians and receptionists, who help with periodontal charting, are doing clinical functions and whether they need to obtain a DA registration. The commission agreed that sterilizing dental tools and equipment is a clinical function and individuals providing this supportive service are considered a DA and must register. The commission also agreed that note taking and data entry is not a clinical function and does not require a DA registration.
- 8.4. Two questions were brought to the commission regarding specific tasks not listed in the DA duties. The first question asked if a DA could remove a healing collar for an implant, then try-in the abutment. The commission agreed that any kind of a try-in is considered irreversible. As long as it isn't a permanent seating (a torque wrench is generally used by the dentist to seat an implant abutment or crown with a screw) and just a preliminary try-in, it is accepted as a delegable duty. The second question asked if a DA could start/stop nitrous oxide. The commission agreed that this is an accepted delegated duty with the appropriate level of supervision.
- 8.5. The Program Standards for EFDA education were presented by Dr. Koday for commission approval. The standards included a process for programs to follow and examples of exhibits necessary for submission. Ms. Bressi introduced Ms. Phinney from Spokane Community College (SCC). Ms. Phinney shared details of the EFDA program she has created and her intent to apply for commission approval. Ms. Phinney would like to offer her EFDA education program in September 2008. The commission approved the Program Standards for EFDA Education. Ms. Bressi will have the document placed into an appropriate format for posting to the website.

## **CLOSED SESSION**

### **9. EXECUTIVE SESSION 10:58 a.m. – 11:14 a.m.**

The term "executive session" is commonly understood to mean that part of a regular or special meeting of the governing body that is closed to the public. A governing body may hold an executive session only for specified purposes, which are identified in RCW 42.30.220(1) (a-k), and only during a regular or special meeting.

## **OPEN SESSION**

### **10. PROCESS REVIEW - REPORTS OF PATIENT INJURY, MORTALITY, OR SIGNIFICANT COMPLICATIONS**

A letter dated July 15, 2008 from Mary Selecky, DOH Secretary, was provided to the commission. Ms. Selecky asked the commission to consider investigating all patient deaths that occur in connection with dental care. Ms. Bressi conducted an informal survey of American Association of Dental Administrators (AADA) members from other states to compare which states require mandatory investigation on deaths related to dental procedures.

Ms. Bressi summarized that fourteen states responded and none of them require mandatory investigation or record dental deaths separately. Each state reported 0 to 3 dental related deaths in the past four years. A department complaint process flow chart and related current commission policies were provided to the commission. The commission discussed the Complaint Threshold Policy to determine if a patient death category should be added to the policy to be listed as mandatory investigation. The commission modified the policy to require that all patient deaths would be evaluated by a five person authorizing panel rather than the current three member panel. They also added the ability to utilize WAC 246-817-780, to request additional information when a self-report is received. The commission approved the policy with modifications. Ms. Bressi will provide a revised draft policy to the commission at their September 11, 2008 business meeting.

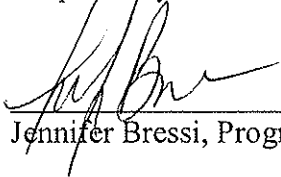
## 11. FUTURE COMMISSION BUSINESS

Mr. Nelson, requested permission to attend the Washington Health Legislative Conference on November 18, 2008 in Sea-Tac Washington. The commission approved his request.

The commission requested a presentation from the department's Radiation Protection office on the recent rule changes related to dental x-rays. They also requested a presentation from the Investigations and Inspections Office on the recently revised investigation procedure for requesting records.

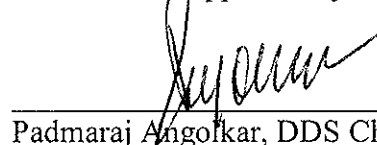
**The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted By:



Jennifer Bressi, Program Manager

Commission Approval By:



Padmaraj Angolkar, DDS Chair